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GROUP 3700

In the claims:

1. (amended) A sheet-processing machine (1) having at least one chain conveyor (13; 47; 112) which has chain gripper systems with grippers (16; 49; 113) for transporting sheets (2; 82; 83), wherein arranged on the chain conveyor (13; 47; 112) is at least one cross-cutting device (21; 57; 120; 130) which interacts with said chain conveyor and [is designed for cutting] cuts transversely to (the transporting direction) the moving sheets (2; 82; 83) and/or the longitudinal strips of the sheets formed beforehand by the sheets being cut longitudinally.)

3. (amended) The sheet-processing machine as claimed in claim 2, wherein the cutting blade (26; 122) and mating blade (24; 123)[, in relation to the axis of rotation of the cutting cylinder (22; 121)] are arranged in a slightly oblique position in relation to the axis of rotation of the cutting cylinder (22; 121) and have a twist.

8. (amended) The sheet-processing machine as claimed in one of claims 1 to [7] 3, wherein it [is designed for trimming] trims at least one transverse edge of the sheets.

10. (amended) The sheet-processing machine as claimed in claim 8 [or 9], wherein a longitudinal-cutting device (38) is installed upstream of the second cross-cutting device (57).

11. (amended) The sheet-processing machine as claimed in one of claims 1 to [8] 3, wherein ⁷(it) is designed for cutting banknote sheets, which have banknote prints (VVD) arranged in matrix form in longitudinal rows and transverse rows, into individual banknotes and, for this purpose, has a longitudinal-cutting device (106) for cutting the sheets into longitudinal strips (L), in accordance with the

longitudinal rows, and for simultaneously trimming the two longitudinal sheet edges, a chain conveyor (112), which is arranged downstream of said longitudinal-cutting device and has grippers (113) which draw the longitudinal strips, and cross-cutting devices (120) which are spaced apart one behind the other along said chain conveyor (112), of which the number is equal to the number of transverse rows of a sheet minus one and which simultaneously cut off from the continuously moving longitudinal strips the banknotes belonging to an original transverse row, banknotes of successive transverse rows being cut one after the other at discrete points in time, and wherein, furthermore, each cross-cutting unit (120) is assigned a transporting arrangement which transports away the cut banknotes.

14. (amended) The sheet-processing machine as claimed in [one of claims] claim 11 [to 13] or 12, wherein arranged downstream of each of the abovementioned transporting arrangements, which transport away the individual banknotes, is at least one separating arrangement (124), which separates the satisfactory banknotes (W) from misprints (W').

16. (new) The sheet-processing machine as claimed in claim 4, wherein it trims at least one transverse edge of the sheets.

17. (new) The sheet-processing machine as claimed in claim 5, wherein it trims at least one transverse edge of the sheets.

18. (new) The sheet-processing machine as claimed in claim 6, wherein it trims at least one transverse edge of the sheets.

19. (new) The sheet-processing machine as claimed in claim 6, wherein it trims at least one transverse edge of the sheets.

20. (new) The sheet-processing machine as claimed in claim 9, wherein a longitudinal-cutting device (38) is installed upstream of the second cross-cutting device (57).

21. (new) The sheet-processing machine as claimed in claim 4, wherein it is designed for cutting banknote sheets, which have banknote prints (WD) arranged in matrix form in longitudinal rows and transverse rows, into individual banknotes and, for this purpose, has a longitudinal-cutting device (106) for cutting the sheets into longitudinal strips (L), in accordance with the longitudinal rows, and for simultaneously trimming the two longitudinal sheet edges, a chain conveyor (112), which is arranged downstream of said longitudinal-cutting device and has grippers (113) which draw the longitudinal strips, and cross-cutting devices (120) which are spaced apart one behind the other along said chain conveyor (112), of which the number is equal to the number of transverse rows of a sheet minus one and which simultaneously cut off from the continuously moving longitudinal strips the banknotes belonging to an original transverse row, banknotes of successive transverse rows being cut one after the other at discrete points in time, and wherein, furthermore, each cross-cutting unit (120) is assigned a transporting arrangement which transports away the cut banknotes.

22. (new) The sheet-processing machine as claimed in claim 5, wherein it is designed for cutting banknote sheets, which have banknote prints (WD) arranged in matrix form in longitudinal rows and transverse rows, into individual banknotes and, for this purpose, has a longitudinal-cutting device (106) for cutting the sheets into longitudinal strips (L), in accordance with the longitudinal rows, and for simultaneously trimming the two longitudinal sheet edges, a chain conveyor (112), which is arranged downstream of said longitudinal-cutting device and has grippers

(113) which draw the longitudinal strips, and cross-cutting devices (120) which are spaced apart one behind the other along said chain conveyor (112), of which the number is equal to the number of transverse rows of a sheet minus one and which simultaneously cut off from the continuously moving longitudinal strips the banknotes belonging to an original transverse row, banknotes of successive transverse rows being cut one after the other at discrete points in time, and wherein, furthermore, each cross-cutting unit (120) is assigned a transporting arrangement which transports away the cut banknotes.

23. (new) The sheet-processing machine as claimed in claim 6, wherein it is designed for cutting banknote sheets, which have banknote prints (WD) arranged in matrix form in longitudinal rows and transverse rows, into individual banknotes and, for this purpose, has a longitudinal-cutting device (106) for cutting the sheets into longitudinal strips (L), in accordance with the longitudinal rows, and for simultaneously trimming the two longitudinal sheet edges, a chain conveyor (112), which is arranged downstream of said longitudinal-cutting device and has grippers (113) which draw the longitudinal strips, and cross-cutting devices (120) which are spaced apart one behind the other along said chain conveyor (112), of which the number is equal to the number of transverse rows of a sheet minus one and which simultaneously cut off from the continuously moving longitudinal strips the banknotes belonging to an original transverse row, banknotes of successive transverse rows being cut one after the other at discrete points in time, and wherein, furthermore, each cross-cutting unit (120) is assigned a transporting arrangement which transports away the cut banknotes.

24. (new) The sheet-processing machine as claimed in claim 7, wherein it is designed for cutting banknote sheets, which have banknote prints (WD) arranged in matrix form in longitudinal rows and transverse rows, into individual banknotes and,

for this purpose, has a longitudinal-cutting device (106) for cutting the sheets into longitudinal strips (L), in accordance with the longitudinal rows, and for simultaneously trimming the two longitudinal sheet edges, a chain conveyor (112), which is arranged downstream of said longitudinal-cutting device and has grippers (113) which draw the longitudinal strips, and cross-cutting devices (120) which are spaced apart one behind the other along said chain conveyor (112), of which the number is equal to the number of transverse rows of a sheet minus one and which simultaneously cut off from the continuously moving longitudinal strips the banknotes belonging to an original transverse row, banknotes of successive transverse rows being cut one after the other at discrete points in time, and wherein, furthermore, each cross-cutting unit (120) is assigned a transporting arrangement which transports away the cut banknotes.

25. (new) The sheet-processing machine as claimed in claim 8, wherein it is designed for cutting banknote sheets, which have banknote prints (WD) arranged in matrix form in longitudinal rows and transverse rows, into individual banknotes and, for this purpose, has a longitudinal-cutting device (106) for cutting the sheets into longitudinal strips (L), in accordance with the longitudinal rows, and for simultaneously trimming the two longitudinal sheet edges, a chain conveyor (112), which is arranged downstream of said longitudinal-cutting device and has grippers (113) which draw the longitudinal strips, and cross-cutting devices (120) which are spaced apart one behind the other along said chain conveyor (112), of which the number is equal to the number of transverse rows of a sheet minus one and which simultaneously cut off from the continuously moving longitudinal strips the banknotes belonging to an original transverse row, banknotes of successive transverse rows being cut one after the other at discrete points in time, and wherein, furthermore, each cross-cutting unit (120) is assigned a transporting arrangement which transports away the cut banknotes.